September 5, 1985

TO: File

FROM: D. Wayne Hedberg, Permit Supervisor/Reclamation Hydrologist DWH

RE: Interstate Brick Clay Operations, Jim Gay Mine, ACT/049/005, Utah County, Utah

On August 29, 1985, Division technical staff members D. Wayne Hedberg, Dave Hooper, David Wham, Lynn Kunzler and Jim Leatherwood met with BLM field personnel and Mr. Ron Bauldwin of Interstate Brick for the purpose of field inspecting several of their clay mining properties. The Jim Gay Mine was visited which overlooks Utah Lake which is located to the east of this mine site. Total surface disturbance at this mine site was visually estimated at roughly 25 acres. There are two major pits associated with this mine site. One being on private, surface and federal minerals, the other being on federal surface and federal mineral.

The most easterly disturbance consists of a deep pit approximately 150-175 feet across, 100-150 feet deep and approximately 500 feet or more long. Leveled stockpile and loadout areas are located adjacent to the pit. The surface is privately owned, while the minerals are federally owned. There are three types of clay minerals at this site. There is a gray clay, a brown clay and the mineral pyrothalite. The gray and brown clay types are currently being mined. The extent of reserves at this site are such that there is approximately three years of the brown clay remaining and approximately 29 years of gray clay reserves. The latter is a higher refractory clay and there is less company need for the same.

There is a smaller pit situated in between the first and second major pits that has a rather large stockpile of abandoned used tires in the bottom of it. A visual estimate of approximately 500-600 tires was made. The second major pit which is located to the west of the first pit has a significant amount of vegetation growing in the bottom of it. Lush cattails, tamarisk, reed canary grass and other associated grasses, sedges and forbs are also present in the pit bottom. A small ponded area is in the upper northwestern edge of the pit where the cattails and associated grasses are thickest.

There may be a spring issuing from the base of this pit as there is water flowing down from this ponded area which eventually seeps into the bottom of the pit before it exists the pit itself. There is a spring also issuing from the highwall (northeast end of pit) approximately 40-50 feet above

the base of the pit from where the pond is located. The water issuing from this spring was of sufficient quality for drinking purposes. There is substantial vegetation which lines the channel leading down from the spring to the pond in the bottom of the pit. The geology in the vicinity of the second pit is highly fractured and faulted interbedded limestone and clay (shale).

It was estimated that this pit has not been mined for a minimum of 10-15 years. Mr. Baldwin stated this pit still has some brown and gray clays that can be mined, but that this would not be pursued for at least another one to two years. He also stated that this second pit would probably be the first one to be reclaimed although the company has not determined the specific mechanism for reducing the highwalls and regrading the area as of yet. The second pit varied in depth from approximately 80 feet to 120-150 at the upper end. No topsoil had been salvaged at this site for reclamation purposes. There is a low potential for topsoil borrow areas in the mine vicinity. Soils consist of a thin A horizon, 0 to 3 inches in depth, underlain by alluvial and colluvial parent material. Approximately 8-10 pictures were taken at this site.

dwh
cc: George Campbell
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